(6)

Enterlude of the iiii
cardynal vertues, & ye vyces
contrarye to them.

Wyllyam Myddylton, London
[c.1545]

The last four leaves, with a colophon, giving the title and the printer, and a woodcut, of an apparently completely unknown interlude.

The woodcut also appears in Wynkyn de Worde's edition of Brant's Ship of Fools, 1517

And after your wayes me to take
May rather with deth amendes wyll I make
¶ Mervayle where prudence is so longe
¶ Now Jesu lende hym vs amonge
¶ Prudence the deuyll of hell hym hange
Ye breke myne armes pe theues I saye
I trust ones in auctoryte to be full stronge
Than I wyll quyte you theues and I may
¶ Nay thou shalte neuer se that day.
¶ Let hym haue ryght syr I you praye
For he wyll do sorowe yf he go thus away
Nay for this mysse truly he shall pay
¶ The father most potencially in all maieste
And he wysedome of the sone to vs most fructuous
With grace of the holy ghost most benygnite
Preserue al this company assembled togyther
Conserue vs in grace our soules be neuer lost
With helpe and intercessyon of that mayden pure
Mother to the sone and in infinite
Prudẽce is a vertue yͭ wysedome doth constrayne
Without whome grace do help persuade and fayne
Wherfore of prudence pe shulde be fayne
And prudence forsoth is the name of me
Mankynde ensueth vyces and folye
Wylfulnes hym tyeth & maketh hym full prone
He wyll nat remembre what he hase mysdone
Whan a man is by brought and set in his throne
He wyl nat remembre to whence that he came
Who hath hym forth brought he taketh no leue
But foloweth his own wyl to bringe hi to shame
Hye for to clymbe they take it for a game
To regarde theyr power fewe hath a syle
But beware the worlde it turneth as a whele
¶ In good trouth brother ye say ryght wele

Tu.
Tempe.
wylfull.

Justice.
Tempe.

Justice.
Prudẽc.

Justice.

This worlde is troubled and brought in wo
Wylfulnes hath approched this worlde to spyll
If he myght haue reygned his will for to do
Tempe. ¶ He was gyuen great auctorytye vnto
The worlde hym auaunce and set in degre
Soone he rebelled and nowe hens gone therfro
Depe he lyeth in pryson, and nowe where is he
wylfull. ¶ Iche haue we thyne herte for it is longe of the
Justice. ¶ Lo syr nowe may you se
Wylfulnes in this degre
Tempe. ¶ Nowe reuerende justyce I you requyre
Let hym haue ryght or he go
For yf he departe I you ensure
All this countrey he wyll vndo
wylfull. ¶ The deuyll spede the thou art euer my fo
Prudēce. ¶ He hath some cause why he doth so
Tempe. ¶ Be trust, thou caytyfe vnkynde
For nother reason wolued hath he
He wold hym slee yf he couldе hym fynde
And all my goodes he hath taken fro me
Rex regum he wylled to be
But it hath be layde before this
wylfull. A shrewde cowe ofte hath short hornes
¶ Hornes ye With many hornes I say
Thou hast made syth thou were borе
And many a cokolde hath borne them away
It were almes that thou were hanged therfore
Here they take hym out.
Justice. ¶ Temperaunce take out this caytyfe
And let hym stande here before vs also
He shalbe punyshed lyke a theфe
Tell vs prudence With hym what we shall do
Prudēce. ¶ Forsothe I wolde were here
wylfull. ¶ Nowe reuerende lorde let me be messenger

Julius.

Iniquus.

Tempe.

Subdole.

Subdole.

Iniquus.

Tempe.

Iniquus.

Iniquus.

Pardee.

And therfore nowe deposed is he

Wylfulnes. ¶ Wylfulnes dyd neuer good in dede
Couetysnes it bryngeth apase
And causeth welth to stande in drede
And to be banysshed fro all solace

Justice. ¶ Wylfulnes causeth dysobedience
A man that is well and can nat se
Wyth a state he is in presence
Set hym make his owne degre
[illegible] oftentymes vndone is he
[illegible] neuer in welth take hede
[illegible] all he may stande in drede
[illegible] to shame
[illegible] hede
[illegible] halte and lame

Foyltu- [illegible] W
pouerty. [illegible] Dompnyne
[illegible] Barbarie
[illegible] wylfulnes
[illegible]
[illegible] Syne
[illegible] thus I came
[illegible] me I had that name

Justice. ¶ In good feyth [illegible] there ye were to blame
But I praye you what do men you call

Foyltu. ¶ You to tell I haue great shame
Syth somtyme I was full royall
Than prosperyte was my name
My power than was most potentyll

Temp. ¶ Lo iustice nowe knowe ye shall
Dysobedience this same is he
He wylled to haue bene lorde of all
So wylfull he was in degre

Pryde. ¶ He refused you and also me
He banysshed welth with loue also

He wolde not suffre in no countre
Vertue to dwell where he shulde go
¶ Now ye may se what he is come to
Wylfulnes is cause of mekyll wo
Many is the man he hath brought full lo
And many a great lorde he hath brought ful lo
¶ Now reuerende lordes I praye you of this
To be my comforte and helpe me in my wo
And a sure promyse make to you ywys
Here after to beware I wyll no more do so
¶ Knyght to iustefye for thy wycked wyll
Thou arte worthy to suffre all thys yll
¶ And he wyll enclyne euer to fulfyl
Gods commaundementes and obedyent to be
Vnto his superyours as reason is and kyle
Than he shalbe holpen shortly by me
¶ Obedience is a vertue most potentiall
And is so precyous ỹ he son of god came downe
Into this worlde and perame mortall
And for vs suffred deth and bytter passyon
Xp̃ fac.9 ē p̃ nobis obediẽce.to grañ vs remissiõ
Thus with obedience he purchased our place
In heuen ỹ we may dwell by his specyall grace
¶ My purpose was pyght me to magnyfye
Aboue all other exalted to be
So ferre in my wylfulnes I dyd me reply
That nowe I am cast in to this degre
And all is longe of aduersyte
The whiche I loued moost excellent
It was a corde to myne entent
As for loue, peace, and tranquylyte
I loued neuer with them to dwell
Temperaunce, prudence and humilite
I dyd forsake my selfe to quell

Justice.

Fortitu.

Justice.

Tempe.

Prudēc.

Prudēc.

and nowe I knowe I doo nat well
Wherfore it cueth me full sore
Forgyue me this I wyll do no more
Iustice. ¶ Than with a newe name we wyll the restore
Fortytude thus we the call
In vertue to encrease more and more
And as our brother be thou shall
In token wherof take this crowne ryall
With this robe and garment gay
Nowe art thou well thus may thou saye
Fortitu. ¶ I thanke you my soueraynes of your goodnes
Syth it hath pleased you me to vnbynde
Nowe men may se what auayleth wylfulnes
It presenteth mancure to be vnkynde
By me it may be verefyed and ye haue in mynde
Of my fyrste commynge hyther to this hall
For than aduersytye men dyd me call
Chaunged into prosperytye by crafte colorable
Disobedience I was in feared no fall
My myght and my mychebe was intollerable
My purpose traited to clymbe aboue all
But fortune sone chaunged and turned as a ball
And depryued me fro honoure whyp wylful mine
So outragious I began in wilful to be vnstable
Vnto prudence and temperaūce I was vnkynde
Also agaynst reason I wrought importunable
Thus was my lyuynge euer to be vnfortunable
For lacke of grace myselfe I wolde nat knowe
Than was I depryued and brought full lowe
¶ Nowe Jesu I thanke the of thy goodly grace
That with this penytent herte me dooste restore
Of my knees bare knowlege my trespas
And askehym of mercy for I wyll neuer more
And Jesu as thou were of a mayde borne

Preserue thys realme from aduersytye
And kepe it alwaye in prosperytye
¶ And all wylfull counsell Jesu amende Tempe.
And graunt vs peace and tranquylytie
That vertue of grace Jesu vs sende
That we may hawyshe all iniquitie
¶ Yee and lorde Jesu we pray to the Prudē.
Dayly to preserue and defende
Our noble kynge Henry the eyght
All welth and prosperitie Jesu hym sende
And we hys true cōmens in our prayers cōmende
With all the states of his noble progeny
Which of theyr goodnes our welth doth intende
¶ Bothe the kynge and ỹ prynce & the lordes all Justice.
Jesu graunt them longe for to raygne
And whan they departe out of this lyfe mortall
That prynce Edwarde maye be our souereyne
¶ Lo ỹ foure cardynall vertues ye may behold Fortitu.
Temperaunce, prudence, and also iustice
And Fortytude full louely on molde
Ben often mysused by reason of vyce
The enuy of man so prest is to atteyce
Our sensuall nature wythe of it selfe is frayle
Contynually temptynge leudnes to atteyce
And all vertues holly to cause from vs fayle
But yet reason draweth to counsayle
Vertuous opposites, surlie pytes to peruert
With helpe of grace soner to preuayle
The stoberne wyll inclose in the herte
Thus euery man felynge the synfull smert
By grudge and pyckynge of the consyence
Fro suche frowarde iuynge may sone asserte
Resistynge wyllynge with his dylygence
And in his herte with perfyte pacyence

Take such assautes done by aduersytye
For surely here ye may se hy experyence
That none ouercomyng this worldly prosperytye
Therfore I counsell euery degre
Trust to that welth promysed from aboue
And to haue that in verfyte charyte
Pray we to that lorde that dyed for our loue

A M E N.

¶ Thus endeth the exercyse of the .iiii. cardynal vertues, & ỳ vyces contrarye to them.

Imprynted at London in Fletestrete,
at the sygne of ỳ George by wyl
lyam Wyddyton

[A MERRY JEST OF THE FRIAR AND THE BOY]

Wyllyam Myddylton, London,
[c.1545]

The last four leaves, comprising Sig.B, and including the colophon, of an unrecorded edition.

A single copy of an edition of [1509-18] (Wynkyn de Worde) is quoted in the Short-title Catalogue. The next edition quoted is 1617, at the Bodleian. The British Museum has an edition of 1626.

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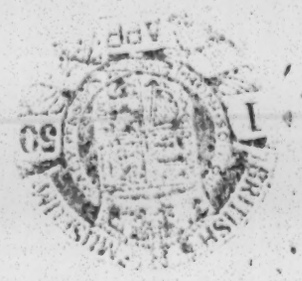

dop

Boye he sayd tell me
what hast thou
(Tell me no lea
Father he sayd by my
I dyd noug
But pyped
That pype sayde his father
Mary god forbyd sayd the
Fys handes dyd he
Yes sayd the good
Than sayd the
And
For the loue of god
Yf ye wyll the
Bynde me to a
For I knowe
And I daun
And
Stronge ropes they to
The fre
In the mydde
All that at souper sat
Laughed and had
And sayde the frere wolde
Than sayde the
Pype sonne
Begyn whan
Father he sayd so
Haue ye shall
Tyll ye byd me be
As soone as Jacke the
All that there were

Began to daunce and lepe
Whan they
They myght not them selfe
But hurled on an
The good man
But lyghtly lept out
As a
Some lept ouerthwt
Some stombled at
And
The good man had
To daunce and lepe
The wyfe
And euer she cast her
Fast her tayle began to crack
Louder then they
The frere him self
For knockynge his
He had none
The rope rubbed
That the bloude
In many a dyuers place
Jacke
After fast they lepe
Truely they coulde not
They went out at the
That eche man fell in other
So properly out
Neyghbours that
Herde the pype go so merily
They ranne in
Some lepte ouer the

Some had no [illegible]
They thought they [illegible]
Some laye in they[illegible] bed
And helde vp they[illegible]
Anone they were awaked
Some starte in the way
Truely as I you say
Starke bely naked
By that they were gathered about
Ywys there was a great rout
Dauntynge in the strete
Some were lame and myght no
But yet ywys they daunced so
On hande and on fote
The boye sayde nowe wyll I
Then sayde the good man
With a mery chere
Cease my sonne I pray the
In sayth this is the
That I herde this
They daunced all the
Some laughed and had good game
And some had many a fall
Thou cursed boy
Here I sommon the
Before the day
Ake thou be there on frydaye
I wyll mete the and I may
I or to ordeyne the sorowe
The boy sayde be god a
Frere I am as
And frydaye were to me

ydaye
Jackes daydaye
Togyther there they met
People gathered a great pace
To here euery maus case
The offycyall was set
There was muche to do
Matters mo than one or two
Both with preest and clarke
Some had testamentes for to proue
And fayre women by your leue
That had strokes in the parke
Euery man forth his case
Than ca· orth frete Copyalle
And Ja [illegible] came also
Syr off[illegible] and he
I haue brought a boye to the
Whiche had wrought me much wo
He is a great [illegible]
In all Dalyaunce is not his pere
By my trouth as I trowe
He is a wytche than sayd the wyfe
I am wery of my lyfe
Her bumme than dyd the blowe
Some laughed without fayle
And some sayde dame temper thy fayle
Ye wrest it all amys
Dame sayde the offyciall
Tell forth thy tale
Do thou not let for this
The wyfe was afrayde of another cracke
That no worde mo she spake

She durst not [illegible]
The frere sayde [illegible]
Knaue this is longe of the
That euyll may thou thebe
The frere sayde [illegible]
This boye wyll [illegible]
But yf ye may hym [illegible]
Syr he hath a [illegible]
Wyll make you daunce and lepe on hye
Tyll your hert brest
The offycyall sayde so may Ithe
That [illegible]
And [illegible]
Mary god forbyd quod the frere
That ye [illegible]
Afore [illegible]
Pype on [illegible]
I wyll here how [illegible]
Jacke blewe vp the coth [illegible]
They daunced that [illegible]
The offyciall lepte ouer the deske
And daunced aboute wonderous fast
Tyll that he had his shynnes brast
He thought it was not all the best
Than cryed he to the chylde
To pype nomore in that place
But holde him styll for gods grace
For the loue of Mary mylde
Than sayde Jacke to them echone
If ye wyll graunt me with herte free
That ye wyll do me no vyllanye
But hens to depart as I come